

PATENT
Application Serial No. 09/261,017

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the abstract as follows:

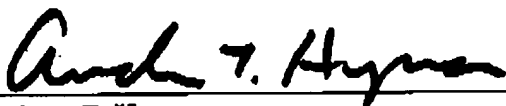
① -- A communications system comprises a central unit (101) and terminals (102, 103, 104). It is equipped so as to establish and maintain a signaling connection between the central unit and at least one terminal using one of at least two alternative signaling protocols. To that end it comprises in the central unit ~~means~~ a device for indicating to a terminal the signaling protocols supported by the central unit, and ~~means~~ a device for setting up via the central unit's network interface a signaling connection between the central unit's signaling unit and the terminal, using a selected signaling protocol. Correspondingly, in the terminal the system comprises ~~means~~ a device for indicating to the central unit the signaling protocol supported by the terminal in response to a message sent by the central unit as well as ~~means~~ a device for setting up via the terminal's network interface a signaling connection between the terminal's signaling unit and the central unit, using a protocol supported by the terminal.--

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Respectfully submitted,

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